Helps veterans find information about employment with federal contractors

Washington, D.C. – A bill authored by Congressman Jerry McNerney (D-Stockton) to make sure veterans have access to good job opportunities was signed into law this afternoon. McNerney's bill, the Veterans Employment Promotion Act, H.R. 2243 was included in H.R. 1627. It will help veterans easily identify federal contractors that employ veterans.

"We need to make sure that our veterans have the resources they need to help them find good jobs here at home. We need to ensure that there is greater transparency to make sure that companies with federal contracts hire our nation's veterans," said Rep. McNerney.

H.R. 2243, the Veterans Employment Promotion Act, requires the Secretary of Labor to establish a website with information about the number of veterans employed by federal contractors. Current law requires contractors to file reports with the Secretary on the number of veterans they hire and employ, but this information is not easily accessible to the public.

A 2009 hearing by the Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity examined federal contractor compliance with veterans' employment laws. During this hearing, representatives of several Veterans Service Organizations recommended better enforcement and oversight. Testimony from this hearing can be viewed here.

"I strongly believe that we must ease the path for our servicemen and women to smoothly make the transition from active service to veteran status. Identifying opportunities for veterans to find work with federal contractors will help put them in good jobs. Standing up for our veterans and the benefits they have earned and deserve is one of the most important things I do," said Rep. McNerney.